

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

F A C T S H E E T

**AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL
ENTITY AGREEMENTS WITH THREE EXISTING PROVIDERS TO FURTHER
IMPLEMENT THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT – COMMUNITY SERVICES
AND SUPPORTS PLAN FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES TO YOUTH IN
PROBATION CAMPS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2007-08 AND 2008-09
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

REQUEST

Approve and instruct the Director of Mental Health or his designee to prepare, sign, and execute Amendments with Associated League of Mexican Americans, Gateways Hospital, and San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center, Inc., who are existing Department of Mental Health (DMH) Legal Entity (LE) Contractors Services Agreements (Agreements), and who were identified through a Request for Services (RFS) process to provide Probation Camp Services to approximately 200 Transition Age Youth (TAY) ages 16 to 20. The agencies will implement expanded mental health services for Seriously Emotionally Disturbed (SED) TAY residing in the Los Angeles County Probation Camps. The cost of Probation Camp Services is \$280,000 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2007-08 and \$420,000 for FY 2008-09 fully funded by Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Community Services and Supports (CSS) ongoing funding.

Delegate authority to the Director of Mental Health or his designee to prepare, sign, and execute future amendments to the Agreements and establish as a new Maximum Contract Amount (MCA) the aggregate of the original Agreement and all amendments, provided that: 1) the County's total payment to the contractor under this Agreement for FY 2007-08 shall not exceed an increase of 20 percent from the applicable revised MCA; 2) any such increase shall be used to provide additional services or reflect program and/or policy changes; 3) the Board of Supervisors has appropriated sufficient funds for all changes; 4) approval of County Counsel and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or their designees is obtained prior to any such Amendment; 5) the parties may, by written Amendment, reduce programs or services and revise the applicable MCA; and 6) the Director of Mental Health shall notify the CEO's office after execution of the Amendment.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION

Board approval of the recommended actions will enable DMH to further develop and expand the current level of mental health services available to SED youth residing in the Probation Camps. Approximately 40 percent (40%) of the 5,000 youths sentenced to

the County's 18 Probation Camps each year have serious mental health problems. The Department currently provides mental health services at nine (9) of the camps. The proposed program will significantly expand the mental health service delivery capacity at these nine (9) camps in alignment with the Probation Department's Camp Redesign by locating staff on site at all nine (9) camps and increasing the number of staff assigned to this program. The Camp Redesign aims to achieve positive behavioral change in youth in the camps through evidence-based practices. It also aims to prepare these youth for successful reintegration into the community.

Multi-disciplinary teams of DMH and Probation staff, along with parents, parent/peer advocates, substance abuse counselors and TAY MHSA system navigators, will develop an individualized integrated case plan based on the unique needs of each youth with an emphasis on community reintegration upon release. Intervention practices will be evidence-based and/or excellence-based with proven and/or promising outcomes. Parent/family support services will include outreach and engagement, family therapy, educational information regarding mental illness and co-occurring disorders, and transportation assistance to promote family participation in the youth's treatment during the period of camp placement through his or her transition back into the community. It is anticipated that many of these youth will be enrolled, concurrently upon release from camp, in a MHSA Full-Service Partnership (FSP) program where their intensive mental health service needs will continue to be addressed.

BACKGROUND

The focus of the State-approved MHSA – CSS Plan (Plan) is on recovery-oriented services for people who are diagnosed as SED and/or with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness, as well as resiliency for children and youth. The Plan is designed to reduce and/or prevent homelessness, unnecessary hospitalization, and incarceration. Additionally, the Plan supports services that contribute to the reduction of recidivism rates for TAY with mental illness and co-occurring disorders that are at risk of incarceration in jail and juvenile justice settings.

There is no increase in net County cost. The FY 2007-08 total cost of the contracted Probation Camp services is \$280,000, which is fully funded by MHSA CSS ongoing funds and is included in the Department's FY 2007-08 Adopted Budget. The \$280,000 is based upon an implementation date of November 6, 2007 allowing approximately eight (8) months for contract providers to provide supplemental treatment services at the nine (9) camps during afternoon, evening, night and weekend hours.

The FY 2008-09 total annualized cost of \$420,000, fully funded by MHSA CSS on-going funding, will be included in the Department's FY 2008-09 budget request.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

On February 9, 2007, DMH issued RFS No. 13 to 28 qualified bidders on the Master Agreement List indicating an interest in providing Probation Camp Services on their Statement of Qualifications. DMH sent agencies who expressed interest in providing Probation Camp Services a notice of the release of the RFS along with a compact disc of the RFS and invited them to a mandatory Proposers' Conference on February 27, 2007. Representatives from 15 contract agencies attended the Proposer's Conference.

DMH received proposals from six (6) agencies by the deadline of April 9, 2007. During December 2006, the Department began soliciting volunteer reviewers for MHSA funding proposals for Probation Camp Services. Ten (10) individuals, who were ethnically diverse and play different roles in the local mental health system (e.g. family member, consumer, staff of DMH, and other County departments) evaluated proposals for the Probation Camp Services program. These review panels assessed and scored proposals individually and then met to discuss and determine consensus scores for each. Simultaneously, reviews of budgets and reference contacts were conducted by DMH staff. Total scores were then reviewed by the Department's Executive Management Team, which finalized recommendations for agencies awarded MHSA funding for Probation Camp Services.

None of the three (3) agencies, which were not awarded funding under RFS No. 13, has requested Contractor Selection Reviews; therefore, no appeals are pending.

Upon Board approval, the Department will amend the three (3) existing DMH LE Agreements, who were identified through a RFS process to provide Probation Camp Services.

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